

## The News-Scimitar

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## SOCIALISTS

Disloyalty to the nation and to the state is the ground on which the five Socialist members from New York city were expelled by an overwhelming majority from the state assembly.

The assembly acted probably within its legal rights as defined by a constitution which bestows these blanket powers: "Each house shall determine the rules of its own proceedings and be the judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members."

So far as a layman can see, the assembly could constitutionally expel a member for writing poetry, or carrying a cane, or expectorating on the floor; or, as in this case, for being a Socialist. Courts have repeatedly sustained legislative bodies in the exercise of their constitutional right to seat or unseat members on any ground that seemed expedient.

But neither courts nor constitutions confer wisdom on legislatures, and we have serious doubts as to whether the New York assembly has done a very sensible thing.

The doctrine of Socialism has received so many definitions that we would undertake to square the circle sooner than undertake to find two Socialists who agree. Apparently the Socialist party which elected the five assemblymen is the least noisy of four radical organizations, the others being the I. W. W., the Communists, and the Communist Labor party. We should think the fact that the Socialists alone wanted to put up candidates and take part in parliamentary institutions was good evidence of their more peaceful and constitutional attitude on the Socialist reforms.

The five members took their oath of office without a quiver, and so far as we have seen the evidence it never appeared that they had previously subscribed allegiance to any improper authority. We would therefore join with the minority who were not satisfied with the finding of disloyalty.

Somewhat it does not look like playing the game according to Hoyle when the two great parties combine to pick on a small opponent who wanted to get in. It looks un-American, and it looks indecently like an act of panic.

Why such a racket over five little Socialists?

Left alone, the Socialist party in America has steadily dwindled till it now numbers by one estimate a mere handful of 25,000 members. But if they are denied the rights of citizenship and outlawed from peaceable political institutions, they may possibly become 25,000 surly reds, and that might be really serious.

Mr. Hughes, former justice of the supreme court of the United States, is a man devoted to the constitution. But speaking as a representative of the New York bar association, on behalf of the five assemblymen at Albany, he asked:

"If the Socialists were denied recourse through their duly elected representatives to the ordinary processes of government, what resort is there left for them?"

## ROBBING THE RICH

Pity the poor rich man! There is no place left for him in public office except appointment as ambassador or minister to foreign courts, and the propagandists are about to eliminate him from consideration for those posts by urging sufficient pay to give a living wage while in the service of the government. If the government can be induced to increase the pay no doubt the posts will be given henceforth to poor but deserving Democrats and Republicans.

Under the present arrangement all the jobs in the government are presumed to be intended for the jobless and the down-and-out, with the exception of the posts at London, Paris, Rome, Petrograd and others designed especially for the rich, with the poor eliminated because of a necessary deficit of from \$15,000 to \$50,000 a year in household operating expenses. The propagandists that have enlisted in the contest to raise the pay for the foreign representatives are striking directly at the last remaining vestige of opportunity for the rich man. Why should the congress or the American people concern themselves about the cost of caviar in Russia or Brussels sprouts in Belgium when our emissaries are selected primarily for their wealth and ability to make a well-paid diplomat from another country look as cheap as a dollar-a-year man without a government contract?

When a problem is settled, why scramble? True, no proper vocation has been found commensurate with the supposed dignity of a former president, but if foreign posts are essentially and primarily intended for the successful manufacturer of liniment, shoe polish or soap, or the proprietor of some other great American institution, why should the propagandists come along and seek to take away the little preferment they have a right to expect?

If this thing continues eventually the only place in public life a rich man can have will be that of a contributor to political campaigns, with its attendant publicity.

## ENGLISH HOUSEWIVES

Accustomed as our good women are in these bad days to drop a tear, if not a penny, for the wrongs of many peoples ground beneath the oppressor's heel, we cannot refrain from calling their attention to the piteous plight of English housewives.

Housewives in England have formed a trade union for the purpose of laying down the law to their employers, and the demands they now make of the housewives are nothing short of revolutionary in old England.

They declare for a working day not to exceed 14 hours.

They want half a day off in which to do nothing each week.

They have the presumption to call for a clear vacation, on full pay, of two weeks per annum.

And they expect to be compensated for this idle existence at the unheard-of rate of \$12 a month!

It is now claimed that the "father" of the suffrage bill in Delaware was kidnapped, thus defeating the measure in the legislature, but the dispatches do not state what it cost.

The allies perhaps will permit the Turks to continue their depredations until the offense is sufficient to warrant Constantinople being taken over by one of them.

The Mississippi river is "spreading itself" and, like people who do the same thing, adds nothing to its utility and makes a nuisance of itself.

## When a Feller Needs a Friend—By Briggs

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## HOROSCOPE

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 1929.

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Mercury and Venus are in benefic aspect, according to astrology, and the stars should be a favorable one for most human activities.

Mercury gives great promise to advertisers, publishers, editors and writers. Publicity is subject to a swing making for a period of great expansion and success.

New journals will multiply at the end of the year and old ones will change.

While authors and newspaper folk of every grade will benefit greatly from conditions that will develop in midsummer, there may be disappointments for editors.

There is in a place that seems to promise a growth of self-confidence on the part of women, which may become self-assurance and may result favorably.

The stars have warned women to be careful of the danger of a growing egotism that may cause ill-advised demands in business and politics.

Financial interest in land and gardens, and in the high cost of living is read for the summer months, but the changes will be hardly appreciable before the national election.

September is likely to have rather a bad effect on the nerves during the next few weeks. Care should be exercised to avoid over fatigue and strain.

Financial interest in land and gardens, and in the high cost of living is read for the summer months, but the changes will be hardly appreciable before the national election.

The result of the financial attention paid to gardens will be a revival of high walls and fences that insure privacy to families.

The kindly rule of digitalis, many persons have emerged from poverty within the last few years and all who have this place well placed in their horoscopes need have no fear of being left behind.

Those whose fortune it is to have the power of money and improvement in all business affairs. The young and court and many.

Children born on this day will be well-mannered and of upright character.

These subjects of Aries generally are very successful in both love and business.

The best of health.

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